

EAOP Alumna
Julie Tran



With the help of her EAOP mentor, Julie Tran selected rigorous courses in a variety of subjects. She is now pursuing her doctor of pharmacy degree.

EAOP students take rigorous courses

EAOP advises students to select courses with academic rigor. A student's eligibility to UC and CSU—and their eventual success in college—is closely associated with the strength of the student's course load. Fortunately, EAOP students take a rigorous course load, more so than other students at their schools and more so than students statewide.

EAOP specializes in academic advising that helps students stay motivated and on track to complete the A-G course requirements required for UC and CSU eligibility. The specific courses approved for A-G are unique to each high school and navigating the course offerings can be daunting. EAOP counselors mentor students through the process.

EAOP academic advising services include individual advising, a

personalized Academic Planner, and group workshops. EAOP advisors visit schools on a rotating basis to provide individual academic advising and academic performance monitoring. They review with each participant which courses they should take to get and stay on track to college. As part of this process, every EAOP student completes and maintains an Academic Planner that advisors use to monitor academic progress. And EAOP further conducts informational workshops on college preparation requirements, as well as specialized workshops to address study skills, time management and goal-setting, thereby helping students maintain their focus on college and achieve in school.

EAOP alumna Julie Tran recalls how her EAOP mentor would review which courses she needed to take. "Without EAOP, I would not have been as informed about the process of getting into college. Every year during high school, we would go over my class schedule and make sure I was completing my high school curriculum."

But Julie did not stop at taking

EAOP STUDENTS TAKE MORE COURSES



On average, EAOP students take 18 college preparatory courses during their high school careers, three more than the 15 minimum required courses for UC/CSU. In contrast, non-EAOP students at the same schools take an average of only 13 A-G courses.

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 the minimum courses required to become eligible to UC/CSU. She also participated in UC Berkeley's summer Pre-College Academy (PCA), where she took math, science, and English courses on the Berkeley campus, and pursued extracurricular activities that enhanced her high school curriculum.

After taking a high school biology class, Julie knew she wanted to pursue a field in the biological sciences. Still in high school—and while taking care of a sick relative—Julie volunteered at local hospitals, including Summit Medical Center and Summit's rehabilitation center, to gain a general understanding of the health care field. Once in college, Julie began to take an array of science courses for her upper division requirements. "I decided to take Introduction to Pharmacology and Toxicology and I simply loved it. I excelled in it and it was my favorite class during college." Julie has stayed focused on her goals after college by working in local pharmacies to gain experience in her chosen field. She is now pursuing her Doctor of Pharmacy degree.

Julie offers advice to today's

EAOP students: "Take a variety of courses...because you may never know what you enjoy most unless you experience it yourself."

Julie is not the only EAOP student who overcame obstacles to take a challenging course load during high school. Every year, EAOP

"Take a variety of courses because you may never know what you enjoy most unless you experience it yourself."

students—who attend some of California's most underserved schools—take rigorous courses.

EAOP mentors encourage participants not just to take the minimum courses to gain admission to UC/CSU, but to go beyond the minimum to become competitively eligible to the selective/impacted campuses. As a result of this guidance, EAOP students take more rigorous courses than students

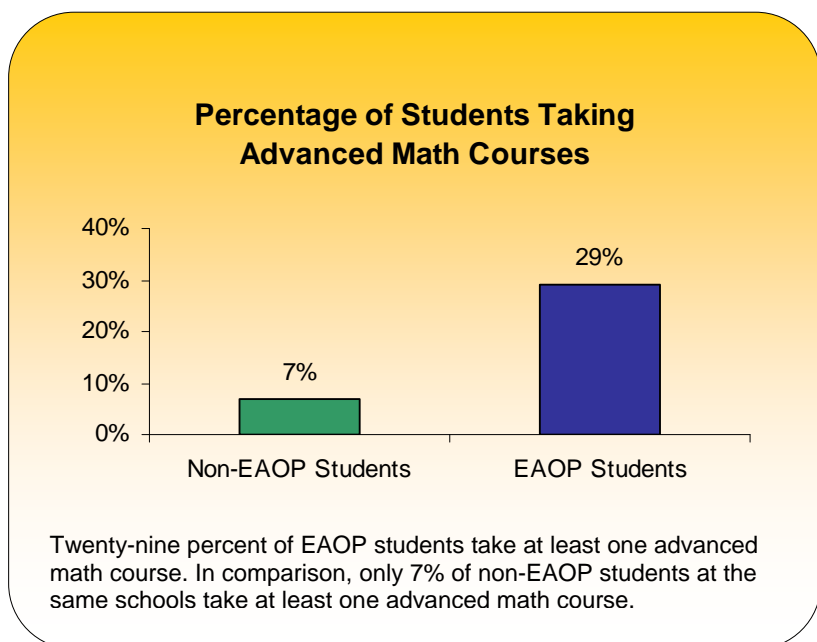
statewide. Several studies have shown that EAOP students are twice as likely to complete the A-G courses required for UC admission as their non-EAOP counterparts. 72% of EAOP students complete the A-G requirements, compared to only 34% statewide.¹

But EAOP students take more than the minimum. On average, EAOP students take 18 A-G courses, three more than the minimum, whereas non-EAOP students in the same schools take only 13 A-G courses, or two below the minimum. Moreover, UC encourages applicants to have at least one advanced math course. 29% of EAOP students take at least one advanced math course, more than four times the rate of non-EAOP students in the same schools (7%).²

EAOP participants not only take more demanding course load, they also excel in those courses. In the A-G classes students take, EAOP participants attain an average UC GPA of 3.18, compared to an average UC GPA of 2.38 for non-EAOP students.³

Choosing a rigorous class schedule

A core component of EAOP mentoring is to advise students to take the A-G courses required for UC and CSU admission. The Early Academic Outreach Program recommends that students take the following courses each year to become competitively eligible to the University of California and to impacted campuses in the California State University system (see table below). Talk to your EAOP advisor or high school counselor about your specific needs based on your progress through the A-G requirements.



EAOP recommended course-taking pattern by grade

9 th grade	10 th grade	11 th grade	12 th grade
<p><i>Minimum</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> English 9 <input type="checkbox"/> Algebra 1 or higher-level math <input type="checkbox"/> World history <p><i>AND at least one of the following:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Language other than English <input type="checkbox"/> Laboratory Science <input type="checkbox"/> Visual and Performing Arts <input type="checkbox"/> College Prep Elective 	<p><i>Minimum</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> English 10 <input type="checkbox"/> Geometry or higher-level course <input type="checkbox"/> Laboratory Science <p><i>AND at least of two of the following:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Language other than English <input type="checkbox"/> Visual and Performing Arts <input type="checkbox"/> College Prep Elective 	<p><i>Minimum</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> English 11 <input type="checkbox"/> Algebra 2 or higher-level math <input type="checkbox"/> Laboratory Science <input type="checkbox"/> US History <input type="checkbox"/> Language other than English 	<p><i>Minimum</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> English <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-calculus or other advanced math course <input type="checkbox"/> American Government or Civics <p><i>AND at least one of the following:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Laboratory science <input type="checkbox"/> Language other than English <input type="checkbox"/> Visual and Performing Arts <input type="checkbox"/> College Prep Elective
<p><i>Beyond the minimum</i></p> <p>Participate in an EAOP summer academic enrichment program, enroll in summer school, or take a summer community college course.</p>	<p><i>Beyond the minimum</i></p> <p>Enroll in at least one honors course.</p> <p>Enroll in at least one AP/IB or community college course, if available.</p> <p>Participate in an EAOP summer academic enrichment program,* enroll in summer school, or take a summer community college course.</p>	<p><i>Beyond the minimum</i></p> <p>Enroll in at least two honors/AP/IB or community college courses, if available.</p> <p>Participate in an EAOP summer academic enrichment program,* enroll in summer school, or take a summer community college course.</p>	<p><i>Beyond the minimum</i></p> <p>Enroll in at least two honors/AP/IB or community college courses, if available.</p>

References

1. Denise Quigley, "The Early Academic Outreach Program (EAOP) and Its Impact on High School Students' Completion of the University of California's Preparatory Coursework," Center for the Study of Evaluation, UCLA, March 2002, p. 17.
2. Juan Sanchez, "Course-Taking Patterns of EAOP and non-EAOP graduates from the same schools, based on Transcript Evaluation Service data for 65 high schools for the academic year 2004-2005."
3. Juan Sanchez, "Course-Taking Patterns of EAOP and non-EAOP graduates from the same schools, based on Transcript Evaluation Service data for 65 high schools for the academic year 2004-2005."